

**Amendments to the Abstract:**

Please amend the Abstract of the Disclosure as submitted herewith on a separate unnumbered page.

**REMARKS**

Entry of the amendments to the specification, claims and abstract before examination of the application is respectfully requested. These claims patentably define over the art of record.

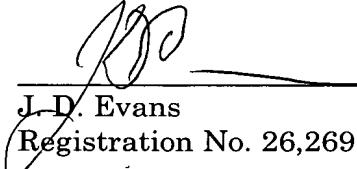
We assert that all of the above amendments do not contain any new matter. For example, the insertion of "silylated-terminal," after "a" on page 2, lines 28 is supported by the general formula [A] on page 3 of the specification.

If there are any questions regarding this Preliminary Amendment or this application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #038788.52643US).

Respectfully submitted,

December 23, 2003

  
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